

U.S.S.N. 09/591,739

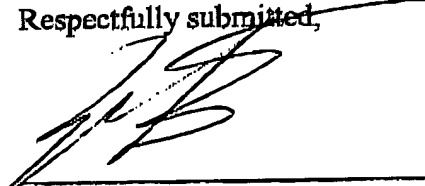
Filed: June 12, 2000

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Martin issued on July 4, 2000, over U.S. Serial No. 08/548,840, filed on October 26, 1995. The present application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 08/548,840, the request of which was filed on June 12, 2000, prior to the issuance of Martin. A copy of the request is attached for the convenience of the Examiner. Therefore, Martin is not a prior art reference of the present application. As such, the rejection of claims 36-38 and 41-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Martin is clearly improper.

Allowance of claims 36-44 is earnestly solicited. A copy of the claims as pending is attached in the Appendix for the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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